

EXECUTIVE ORDER

NUMBER ELEVEN

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest in the State of Iowa that a continuous effort be made to provide the people of the state with an effective and efficient government to meet their needs; that state services should be rendered at the minimum possible cost; that the services of the state should be available with minimum inconvenience to the citizen; and that state government should provide a competent mechanism for continuous state development by serving as a structure for local government involvement in policy formulation and execution.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harold E. Hughes, Governor of Iowa, in order to determine the manner in which and the time within which a regional concept of state government may be implemented in Iowa, do order and direct that the steps herein specified be taken by all departments, commissions and agencies of the State of Iowa:

Article I NEED FOR A REGIONAL CONCEPT OF STATE GOVERNMENT

It is essential that action be taken to obtain coordination and unity in providing state services to Iowa's citizens. At the present time, state departments, agencies and commissions administer their services within a confusing patchwork of overlapping regions, without the benefit of commonly defined areas or coordinated services. This practice complicates the planning and administration of programs at the local, state and federal levels; reduces the productivity of state officials and employees; and results in unnecessary confusion and inconvenience to the citizen who must travel or communicate with first one place and then another in an attempt to obtain interrelated state services. The implementation of a regional concept of state government will serve to answer these needs for coordinated state government services.

Article II RECOMMENDED PLAN FOR REGIONALIZATION

In January, 1967, the Office for Planning and Programming was directed by this office to study the need for coordinating state services, to review all earlier studies and recommendations related to this need, and to make specific recommendations to answer the need.

The results of this study and the specified recommendations with respect to it are now complete and are contained in a document entitled

"A Regional Delineation For the State of Iowa", dated December, 1967, which document is by reference made a part hereof. Basing its determinations on established criteria, the study recommends the designation of sixteen area planning and service regions and sixteen area cities.

The designation of the specified areas and cities is not intended to alter the status of existing county or local services or to determine the responsibilities of county or local offices in any manner.

The regionalization concept as defined in the study provides a means by which state planning and services may be coordinated from the offices in the state capitol, through the field service offices, to the citizen; it provides an opportunity for government departments, agencies and commissions to provide better and more efficient services at a minimized expense to the taxpayer by sharing personnel, equipment and facilities; and it enables the citizen to reap the benefits of more efficient and effective state government, with less confusion and less inconvenience.

Article III IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL CONCEPT OF STATE GOVERNMENT

In order that preliminary steps toward implementation of the regional concept of government as herein specified, might be taken, the several departments, commissions and agencies of the State of Iowa are hereby ordered and directed to submit the following information to the Office of the Governor, by May 1, 1968:

1. A description of an overall plan for implementing within the particular department, commission or agency the regionalization concept as defined in the study. This plan shall include:
 - a. A timetable for implementation.
 - b. A determination of the field services which fit the regionalization concept.
 - c. An estimate of cost of each major step in implementing the plan.
 - d. Actions within the department necessary for implementation.
 - e. Projection of accomplishments toward implementation for a one year period.
 - f. Narrative on program plans, describing in detail the methods and resources to be applied in the first year's efforts for regionalization.
 - g. Set out plans for fiscal reporting by regions.
2. It is recognized that no set of multi-county areas can serve as the framework for every purpose. Therefore, those departments with the special conditions described below will take the appropriate action noted:
 - a. Those departments without a field service operation should simply report same. If there is no future need foreseen for field services, so state.
 - b. Those departments with special problems indicating extreme difficulty in utilizing the regions, as set forth, should arrange for a meeting with the Director of the Office for Planning and Programming.

In addition to the above, the several departments, commissions, and agencies of the State of Iowa are hereby requested to take such preliminary steps as are feasible to provide for the implementation of the regionalization concept.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 19th day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred sixty-eight.